

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1787

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USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02277

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, UNGA

SUBJECT: SSOD PLENARY DEBATE JUNE 2 - NORWAY AND ITALY

1. SUMMARY. GENERAL DEBATE OPENED WITH SPEECHES BY NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND AND ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER ANDREATTI. FRYDENLUND STRESSED THE NECESSITY FOR EUROPEAN ARMS REDUCTIONS AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES AND ALSO HIGHLIGHTED MEASURES TO RESTRAIN FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS TOWARD A PLUTONIUM ECONOMY. ANDREOTTI CALLED FOR SETTING ASIDE A MODEST AMOUNT FROM MILITARY BUDGETS FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST NATURAL DISASTER AND PLACED EMPHASIS ON THE NEED FOR BALANCE BETWEEN NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL DISARMAMENT.

2. NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE NATO POSITION ON VERIFICATION AND PRAISED PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION TO POSTPONE PRODUCTION OF NEUTRON WEAPONS. HE UNDERScoreD THEME THAT DIVERSION OF MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES TO ARMAMENTS HARMS PROSPECTS
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FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF A NIEO. HE URGED THAT UN MAKE A FORMAL STUDY OF THE COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ARMS SPENDING AND THE NIEO. FRYDENLUND IDENTIFIED AS THE MAIN MULTILATERAL TASK THE CREATION OF A POLITICAL CLIMATE THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE NATIONS TO ARM FOR THEIR SECURITY. SUCH A CLIMATE WOULD FOLLOW CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES (SUCH AS THE HELSINKI FINAL

ACT) AND AGREEMENTS TO LIMIT QUANTITIES OF ARMS. NORWAY ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE RECENT NATO SUMMIT MEETING'S CALL FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON FORCE LEVELS IN EUROPE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. ALSO IMPORTANT TO NORWAY ARE ASSOCIATED MEASURES OF STABILIZATION, VERIFICATION AND NON-CIRCUMVENTION IN REGARD TO PROSPECTIVE ARMS REDUCTIONS. NORWAY VIEWS SUCH MEASURES AS PROVIDING MEANS TO INSURE THE COHERENCE AND COHESION OF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS IN A WAY THAT PROTECTS THE INTERESTS OF THE SMALL STATES AS WELL AS THE GREAT POWERS. FRYDENLUND SUGGESTED CONVENING ANOTHER SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GA AS THE BEST WAY TO PROCEED TO ASSURE CONTINUOUS UN INVOLVEMENT IN DISARMAMENT AND TO GIVE ALL STATES A ROLE. FRYDENLUND LAMENTED THE SLOWNESS OF SALT II NEGOTIATIONS. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AND SUPPORTED A COMPLETE TEST BAN. HE PLEDGED NORWAY IS PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO A VERIFICATION SYSTEM THAT CAN MONITOR COMPLIANCE OF A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN AGREEMENT THROUGH NORSAR, THE NORWEGIAN SEISMIC ARRAY. FRYDENLUND APPEALED TO ALL STATES, ESPECIALLY THOSE ON THE THRESHOLD OF ACQUIRING NUCLEAR ARMS TO RATIFY THE NPT OR, AT A MINIMUM, TO ABIDE BY ITS PROVISIONS.

HE REITERATED NORWAY'S SUPPORT FOR CURRENT WORK IN THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION. HE URGED THAT
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PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THIS STUDY ALL STATES RESTRAIN FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS TOWARD THE PLUTONIUM ECONOMY. FRYDENLUND ALSO PROPOSED THAT IN ALL NATIONS BUDGET REQUESTS FOR NEW WEAPONS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT ACQUISITION OF SUCH WEAPONS ON ARMS CONTROL. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT INCREASES IN CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS AND CALLED FOR INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS COVERING THIS AND FOR THE UN TO KEEP A LOG OF SUCH TRANSFERS. FRYDENLUND ALSO SUPPORTED A STRONGER ROLE FOR THE UN IN DISARMAMENT DELIBERATIONS. AT THE SAME TIME HE RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO RETAIN IN GENEVA A SINGLE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATING FORUM OF LIMITED SIZE TAKING ITS DECISIONS THROUGH CONSENSUS. HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT SWEEPING CHANGES IN THE CURRENT COMPOSITION OF DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING BODIES COULD REDUCE THEIR EFFICIENCY AND DEGRADE THEIR USEFULNESS. IN THIS CONNECTION HE SUPPORTED SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM'S PROPOSAL THAT THE UN ESTABLISH AN ADVISORY BOARD TO ASSIST MEMBER STATES AND THE SECRETARIAT IN COOPERATING WITH AND ASSISTING THE UN CENTER FOR DISARMAMENT IN ITS RESEARCH AND INFORMATION ACTIVITIES.

3. ITALIAN PRESIDENT ANDREOTTI'S ADDRESS WAS FOR THE MOST PART OF A GENERALIZED RECOLLECTION OF ITALY'S RECORD AND INTEREST IN SEEKING A PEACEFUL, NUCLEAR WEAPONS-FREE WORLD. HE NOTED THAT NEW AND INTENSIVE INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS ARE NEEDED TO GIVE IMPETUS TO THE START MADE TO DATE TOWARD DISARMAMENT. ANDREOTTI SUPPORTED THE PREVIOUSLY STATED POSITION OF THE EC 9. ITALY FAVORS STRENGTHENING THE UN ROLE IN DISARMAMENT. HE URGED STATES TO CONSIDER SETTING ASIDE A MODEST AMOUNT FROM THEIR ARMS BUDGET FOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCING OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST "THE MOST SERIOUS DISASTERS OF MODERN LIFE" WHICH INCLUDE POLLUTION OF

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THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT, DEFORESTATION, DESERTIFICATION OF ARABLE LANDS, AND OVERCROWDING OF URBAN CENTERS AND CERTAIN GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS. HE NOTED THAT ITALY HAS SUGGESTED GRADUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF A SERIES OF MEASURES IN A LOGICAL PROGRESSION: 1) TOTAL PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR TESTS; 2) STRENGTHENING OF THE SYSTEM OF VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL NONPROLIFERATION, AND THE CONSEQUENT LIMITATION, REDUCTION AND ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS; 3) BANNING OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS; 4) CONCLUDING SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND OTHER CLEARLY IDENTIFIED WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION BASED ON NEW SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES; 5) INITIATING A PROCESS OF REDUCTION OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS AND ARMED FORCES, WHICH WOULD PROCEED IN PARALLEL WITH EFFORTS FOR NUCLEAR

DISARMAMENT WITHIN A FRAMEWORK IN WHICH ALL COMPONENTS OF
THE SITUATION AS WELL AS THE NEED TO MAINTAIN A BALANCE
BETWEEN THE PROPOSED MEASURES WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.
ANDREOTTI STRESSED THE NEED FOR APPROPRIATE CONTROL OF
DISARMAMENT THROUGH AN ADEQUATE SYSTEM OF VERIFICATION.

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ITALY CONSIDERS THAT MAINTENANCE OF COMMON SECURITY CAN
BE GUARANTEED ONLY BY A BALANCED REDUCTION OF BOTH
NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS TO BE SOUGHT BY
MEANS OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS--
BOTH GLOBAL AND REGIONAL--AIMED AT REDUCING THE VOLUME
OF ARMAMENTS IN ALL REGIONS, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, TO THE
LOWEST POSSIBLE LEVEL. YOUNG

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